



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

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News Release

ICE ARRESTS ALIEN FUGITIVE WHO FLED COPS *Guyana Native had Convictions in New Jersey, Florida*

NEWARK, N.J. – Officers of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) have arrested a fugitive alien involved in a high-speed police chase in Union, N.J.

Members of ICE's Newark Fugitive Operations Team were at the Union Police Station March 9 investigating the whereabouts of Jon Paul Kirton, 31, when they found him at the station. Kirton had gone to the station to turn himself in following his involvement in a high-speed chase with the police on March 5.

Kirton, a native of Guyana, had been a fugitive from ICE for four years. He had entered the United States as a legal immigrant in 1982, but has multiple criminal convictions in New Jersey and Florida, including convictions for domestic violence and sexual assault. As a result, an immigration judge ordered Kirton deported in March 2001. Kirton didn't show up for his immigration hearing.

Members of the ICE Newark Fugitive Operations Team had been searching for Kirton. He was known to be in the area but had moved four times in the last two months. They were following up on a lead as to his possible residence when they found him at the police station.

"Kirton, a legal immigrant, squandered the opportunity given to him by this country," said Michael Anderson, Acting DRO Field Office Director in Newark. "His crimes cost him his green card, and he fled rather than face justice. Now, he will be removed. We are committed to finding and removing all alien fugitives who ignore and abuse our laws."

Kirton is currently in ICE custody in the Middlesex County Jail pending his removal from the United States.

The National Fugitive Operations Program (NFPO) targets individuals who have been ordered deported from the United States but failed to report for removal. From March 1 through Sept. 30, 2004, DRO apprehended 3,409 fugitives with final orders of removal, an increase of 112 percent over the same period in 2003. Fiscal year 2004 fugitive apprehensions totaled 11,063.

#ICE#

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.